

Semi-Weekly Independent.

Vol. II.

PLYMOUTH, MARSHALL COUNTY, INDIANA, SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 1896

No. 48.

THE MONON SEED CO.

METHODS OF CHICAGO COMPANY INDICATE FRAUD.

Propositions Limited to Three People in a Neighborhood Sent Out in Quantities—A Peculiar Limitation of "Locality" Gives Their Methods a Shady Hue.

Some time since THE INDEPENDENT published an advertisement of the Monon Seed Co., of Chicago. It offered prizes to those who would make a list of the largest number of words containing only the letters which occur in "Monon Seeds Grow," and attracted considerable attention.

Many people of this city and vicinity began the preparation of lists. When completed these lists were mailed to Chicago and in due time what purports to be a typewritten letter, but what is in fact a printed circular letter with merely the address written with typewriter, was mailed to each of the contestants.

The prizes offered in the advertisement were cash. The letter proposed to give neighborhood prizes in addition to the cash prizes advertised. The letter reads as follows:

Dear Madam:—On the 15 of last month The Monon Seed Co. commenced giving a special "Neighborhood" prize to the three contestants in each locality from whom we received the best list of words made from the letters contained in "Monon Seeds Grow."

You are one of the lucky three, and entitled to one of the extra prizes for your locality. The other two are being notified today.

If you return the enclosed agreement signed within six days you will be given first choice of the three extra "Neighborhood" prizes.

The three extra prizes consist of:

First—A very pretty, genuine diamond ring, gold setting, (guaranteed genuine.)
Second—A genuine Ansonia watch (gentleman's size), American movement stem wind and set, guaranteed an accurate and reliable time-piece and absolutely dust and water proof.

Third—An after dinner Silver Tea Set, three pieces, (tea pot, cream and sugar) quadruple plate, prettily engraved and cream pitcher is gold lined.

These extra "Neighborhood" prizes have no connection and do not interfere with the regular prizes which will be given in the contest, and rewarded promptly at close of same. No charge whatever is made for this extra prize, excepting that you order our Spring Collection of forty beautiful Flowering Bulbs (\$2.75) and agree to show them now and also during the season when in bloom, to your friends and neighbors and tell them we have many just such bargains.

The object of these extra prizes is to have our bargains in Bulbs thoroughly advertised in every locality, and will be sent only on conditions named in agreement.

Please understand that it is necessary to return the enclosed agreement, signed within six days which entitles you to first choice of the three extra prizes. Kindly accept our congratulations and we trust your receiving this extra prize will increase our popularity in your section. We remain

Sincerely yours,
The Monon Seed Co.

It will be noticed that each recipient of one of these letters was "one of the lucky three." Of course there may arise some question as to the specific definition of the word "locality," but the general acceptance in cases of this kind would be that locality meant the village or city, and not the people of a block or a short section of a street.

We have no further comment to make at this time, but shall deem it a favor on the part of every subscriber who received one of these letters to give us further information in regard to the matter. It has a bad look as it stands, but if the Monon Seed Co. is dealing fairly and justly with its patrons, we shall be very glad indeed to set them right before the people of this locality.

Thinks Her Son Drowned.

John Davis left Pittsburg, Pa., last September to find employment in Chicago. A letter received by Mrs. Davis, his mother, who moved from Greene county to Pittsburg in August, was the last heard of him. One day last week a bottle containing a message signed John Davis and saying that he had found a watery grave, was washed upon the beach at Miller's station. Mrs. Davis, laboring under the belief that her son's body had been found, left Pittsburg and arrived at Miller's station, only to find that beyond the message the mystery was not solved. Mrs. Davis was 70 years old and her son was her sole support. The mother will spend several days in Chicago in the hope of finding some tidings of her son there.

The above was taken from the Michigan City Chronicle of Monday last. Recently THE INDEPENDENT published the letter that was found at Miller's station. As it might be possible that this should in some way reach the eye of the aged mother we will re-produce it and forward the original copy to her

if her address will be forwarded to the Plymouth Independent. The following is the letter:

"When you see my dear old mother tell her I am no more in this world. I have taken a watery grave and tired of living. So good-bye to all. I leave a watch in the pawn shop on Clark street that my great grandfather gave me."
JOHN DAVIS, Plymouth, Ind."

A Happy Wedding.

Tuesday at 7 p. m. the marriage of J. Peter Hansen and Miss Katherine Theurer took place at the Lutheran Evangelical church. The friends of the bride and groom had decorated the church very prettily and a large number of invited guests were there to see the ceremony. Two ushers preceded the bride's maid, Miss Marie Theurer, of Ann Arbor, Michigan, who was followed by the bride and groom as they marched up the aisle to Mendelssohn's "Wedding March," played by Miss Amelia Haag, the church organist. Rev. Grob then tied the nuptial knot with the impressive German services.

The bride was dressed tastefully and becomingly in a cream-white henrietta gown, trimmed in lace and ribbon. She carried a bouquet of large white roses. The groom wore the conventional black. The bride's maid, a sister of the bride, wore a pretty white dainty with pink roses.

After the ceremony the guests assembled at the future home of Mr. and Mrs. Hansen, where a reception was held and delicious refreshments were served. Here the guests made merry until a late hour.

They received many handsome and useful gifts from their many friends and relatives.

The groom is a well-known employee of the Novelty works. The bride is a young lady who has made her home for some time in Plymouth and who formerly lived near Bourbon.

On The Trail.

So far as we are aware Plymouth has so far been fortunate enough to steer clear from vilifying influences of the Kansas City Sun; although there is not a shadow of doubt there are some people in our city who would furnish good material for its columns. This paper has a faculty of learning through its secret agents and correspondents, all the mean things committed. Especially does it take extreme satisfaction in presenting things to the public gaze that would in a majority of cases have been better left unsaid. It is a medium through which personal animosities and personal spite can be worked off to a good advantage.

At Columbia City, a correspondent to that paper has kept the town in a continual hubbub for some time, and those interested have had blood in their eyes. It is thought that they are onto the right party, and it will in all probability cause a cessation of the sensational editors.

About the Monon Seed Company.

The Monon Seed company, with which the people of this city are somewhat acquainted, has been doing a large business, but in its overweening disposition seems to have run a-foul of Uncle Sam. It will probably now be called upon to define the word "locality." The Record of Friday contains the following:

"Five packages of mail containing more than 3,000 letters addressed to the Monon Seed company, Monon building, Chicago, are held by Inspector Stuart under a lottery and fraud order. The firm is said to have been running a prize contest of such a character that Inspector Stuart declared yesterday that one glance at the literature sent forth by this company had satisfied the government that its methods were illegal. Volumes of mail have been pouring into the company's office, the five packages now held in the postoffice representing but two days' receipts. At the office of the company it was said that the manager was out and that no one else could give any information regarding the business. 'The Monon Seed Company, Seeds, Bulbs, Shrubs,' appeared upon the office doors, but inside the place more nearly represented a jeweler's than a seed store. Cases containing electroplated articles, watches and the like, occupied that part of the floor which was not taken up by four typewriters and clerks."

Make It Thick.

The cowardly dog who distributes broken glass on Elkhart's streets is known to bicyclists and will be prosecuted should he continue the practice.—Goshen Democrat.

We would advise the boys if they are sure they are onto the right fellow, to buy a bucket of tar and pour one of their mother's pillows. This in our estimation would have a more salutary effect than anything that could be adopted. A man who can wilfully commit such a mean, contemptible trick, is only worthy of a coat of tar and feathers.

AFTER THE PRISONER.

Rumors Regarding the Possible Attack on the Jail Caused the Sheriff to Take Bracus to South Bend.

Ever since the incarceration of Leroy Bracus for his dastardly brutish acts of Sunday morning last, the air has been filled with that stillness that in many cases denotes the approaching storm. There is no doubt that a large number of law abiding citizens in this county have realized in their minds that this earth was no fit abiding place for this fellow Bracus. If there was a conspiracy to let this monster hang at the end of a rope it has been kept beneath the surface in a manner that has materially baffled detection.

Monday evening rumors were afloat that caused the sheriff to take extra precautions to guard the prison, and owing to the fact that a number of people commenced congregating in our city Tuesday evening, and peculiar messages that were flashed over the wires, sheriff Smith decided to remove the cause that was attracting the masses of an outraged community toward the Marshall county jail. Ordering a carriage last night between 9 and 10 o'clock, it was but a short time until Deputy Sheriff Black was enroute for Lapaz where the train for South Bend was taken, and today Bracus is confined in the jail in that city.

It is truly marvelous how patient the people are at times. Law is a peculiar creature, and it seems to take so long a time to move its ponderous body that the masses became antagonistic to its efforts. Yet, men should consider an act wherein a life is forfeited to their passions. It matters not how guilty a creature may be, the taking of the law in the hands of an indignant people, is neither more nor less, than murder.

This Takes the Bait.

A special from Warsaw to the Chicago Times-Herald Wednesday says, "The strangest phenomenon ever seen in this city was visible yesterday during the big storm. It was a mirage of the Masonic Temple in Chicago. The great building hung in the sky, apparently over a wagon factory near the public square. Yesterday was a strange day in more ways than one at this place. The wind was high and the rain fell furiously. Hail as large as walnuts rattled on the housetops and battered the windows of buildings. A great cloud hung after the storm had subsided, in the western sky and on its face was pictured the Masonic Temple in complete mirage. The structure was plainly visible and people could be easily seen walking about in its vicinity. Warsaw is 109 miles from Chicago.—Valparaiso Messenger.

We don't blame the Messenger for intimating that there is something radically wrong with the water they drink at Warsaw. Outside of this particular we might mention two other features that might be an indirect cause for such an extraordinary optical illusion.

We would call the attention of our reader to the fact, that this mirage appeared over a wagon factory. Now if this factory in our sister city has the grave yard appearance clustering around it, like unto the one that is located in the suburbs of our industrious city, there is without doubt some pronounced reason for the illusion.

But a more potent reason is admissible. The party who is given the credit of witnessing this mirage is a rank "gold bug." No doubt that morning this illusionist was looking at the Chicago Record cartoon, which represented "Buck" Hinrichsen, the chairman of the democratic state central committee. "Buck" is represented as leisurely leaning against the Masonic Temple, coolly surveying the field. And why not? He has all the single standard fellows on the run.

This latter cause, no doubt gave rise to this sensation. Oh, we are living in a progressive age!

Half Rates to South Bend, Ind., Account State G. A. R. of Indiana.

The Indiana, Illinois & Iowa R. R. will sell excursion tickets to South Bend for once occasion from points in Indiana, May 12 and 12, good returning May 15, 1896, at the rate of one fare for round trip.

For further particulars call on agents 3 "I" route, or address S. S. Whitehead, G. P. A., Kankakee, Ills.

Constipation is generally caused by inflammation of the lower portion of the rectum. Take 10 drops of Brazilian Balm twice a day; also inject half a teaspoonful each night. A two weeks' course of this treatment seldom fails to make a permanent cure. Never purge yourself for constipation.
For sale at Peoples Drug store.

Church Items.

Township Sunday-school convention calendar: Union, Saturday, April 25, Burr Oak; Center, Tuesday, April 28, Richland; West, Thursday, April 30, Donaldson; Polk, Saturday, May 23, Barber church.

Rev. J. T. Charlton, who for several months past has been the pastor of the Presbyterian church, left Wednesday morning for Indianapolis where he will remain a short time before returning to his home in Kentucky. A large number of his former congregation are sorry to see him leave Plymouth and though a young man, they had confidence in his ability for good work in his chosen profession.

The meeting held at the M. E. church Tuesday evening was not very largely attended. The matter regarding the work on the church, or the erection of a new edifice was thoroughly canvassed and it was decided to proceed with the work in hand and repair the present structure. One feature that we believe very important and which was not acted upon, was the arrangement for a new entrance. With a corner entrance, which we are informed could be easily done, and would give a modern appearance, and thus do away with the many inconveniences already so noticeable. We hope this additional necessity will be forthcoming.

The Advance Agent.

The important position occupied by the advance agent of any aggregation to a large extent is responsible for the financial remuneration of the show. This was never more forcibly expressed than in billing the town of Lapaz for "Harris Bros.' Funmakers."

Now, Bert Harris has been filling the position as advance agent for our home troupe for the reason that he could the more fully present the good qualities of his show. Thursday night was set for the great gathering and when our boys arrived on their special train they expected to see the streets lined with people. The feeling of the boys can be imagined when they discovered the streets deserted and the majority of the inhabitants of that quiet burg enjoying their rest. The question arose how such a state of affairs could possibly occur. The great three sheet poster and two cent lithograph that were displayed in the windows and on the bill boards looked inviting, yet there seemed to be something wrong. Upon investigation the horrible truth flushed upon the sluggish brain of the advance agent. He had failed to put dates on the paper.

It is said that the silence for a few moments fell upon the "black cork" artists was appalling and only broken by the thud made by Bert Harris bumping his head against the bill board. Something had to be done! The boys contemplating an overflow had not even taken cigar money along with them. The manager Bert Harris was approached in a threatening manner by the stars for their salaries and Bert by eloquent prayers prevailed upon them to withhold their demands until he could he get his Saturday's salary for shaving the citizens of Plymouth. But that was not the extent of the trouble. The advance agent and manager could not pay the hall rent, and it is said by some of the boys that Bert put up his overcoat as security.

Shrock and Stevens concluded that they would give a private entertainment and notified some of the youngsters that a free exhibition would be given at the hall. It drew quite a large crowd, and on passing the hat around they managed to rake of \$261, which furnished enough money to pay their individual expenses. The boys this morning were breathing all sorts of vengeance on Bert, and he can be found at Sult's barber shop weekly attending to his duties.

Death of Robert Neil.

Again are we compelled to record the death of one of Plymouth's old residents. Thursday afternoon at 4:30 occurred the death of Robert Neil. Mr. Neil was born near Belfast, Farnam county, Ireland, January 12, 1823. When he was 15 years old he, with his parents, emigrated to Canada and lived there until 1866, when Mr. Neil moved to Plymouth, where he has since lived.

For many years Mr. Neil was engaged in the tailor's trade in this city, which he discontinued about five years ago, since which time he has not been actively engaged in any association. Mr. Neil was married shortly after coming to Plymouth, his wife and five sons and a sister surviving him. His children are Geo. Neil, Cohoes, N. Y.; John and William Neil, Chicago; Robert Neil, St. Thomas, Canada; and Edward Neil, of this city.

NO FALSE MODESTY.



"Harold, papa calls you a fortune hunter. I'm sorry I'm rich."
"So am I. Everybody will say that you bought me."—Day City Chat.

TYNER CITY.

April 23, 1896.

Quite a number from this place attended the U. B. quarterly meeting at the Island last Saturday and Sunday, and the M. E. meeting at Hamlet.

Mrs. Kreighbaum and her daughter, Jessie Wells, of Ft. Wayne, visited with Mrs. Sherwood and family near Plymouth, Monday and Tuesday.

Miss Sarah Kyle went to Walkerton to work in the millinery store for Miss Millard as trimmer.

Mr. Martindale and family, of Plymouth, were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Al. Harman, last Sunday.

Charlie Keller and wife, Chase Keller and wife, John Wolf and family, took dinner at Isie Millers last Sunday.

Miss Lillie Bently went to Mill Creek to see her mother last Saturday returning Monday.

Mr. Plumer has moved in his new house. Ed. Wilcox moved in the house vacated by Plumer.

Johnson & Lemert have opened up their butcher shop. They expect to keep a nice supply of fresh meat on hand.

Mr. Boor has improved the looks of his house by a coat of paint.

The M. E. L. A. S. have changed their sewing to Saturday afternoon.

J. E. Johnson shipped a car load of hogs to Chicago the first of the week.

Mrs. McCormack, of Lapaz, spent Sunday with her sister, Mrs. Henry Jarrell.

Frank Bennett has the lumber on the ground for his new house.

Mrs. Lena Detwiler is at Sock Town for a weeks visit with her aunt, Mrs. Drallingar, she will return home Saturday.

Mrs. Montgomery, of Argos, is here at present visiting her sister, Mrs. Harman.

Mrs. Bertie McDonald, of Walkerton, who went to Georgia a few weeks ago for her health is so much worse that her husband started after her last Monday to bring her back home. The baby also is sick.

J. E. Johnson was at South Bend last Saturday, and bought a nice, young horse. He bought two more on Monday at Walkerton.

John McCormack is able to be on our streets again.

Evert Tole, of Hamon, made a flying trip to Ed. Monroe's, last Monday and flew away on the noon train with his new bride, the former Miss Julia Thompson. We wish them a happy married life.

Elder Tomas will preach at the U. B. church tonight, (April 23rd.)

The M. E. ladies cleared some eight dollars at their supper, last Saturday evening. Everybody enjoyed themselves, and went home happy.

A. D. Johnson has traded his property here for property in South Bend. He expects to move soon, we have not learned the business he expects to follow, unless he is going to join the Salvation army.

With its splendid equipment, uniformed colored porters on day coaches to attend to the wants of passengers, elegant sleeping cars, unexcelled dining service, and facilities for quick time, the Nickel Plate road is in a position to make a favorable bid a secure its portion of the business enroute to the general conference of the Methodist Episcopal church at Cleveland, Ohio. Low rates are offered via this popular route. Tickets on sale April 29th, 30th, May 1st and 12th, good returning five days from date of sale. Tickets may be extended to June 2nd by depositing them with the Joint Agent within five days from date of sale.

Gets Indignant.

The worthy editor of Independent No. 2 rises in his righteous indignation and smites us over an attempt made, as he states, to meddle with his private affairs. The only thing stated by him in reference to the matter that we object to is his classing us with the editor of the Republican. We are wholly responsible for anything that may appear in THE INDEPENDENT, but we do not propose to have one atom saddled off onto us that arises from personal notices between the two old established political organs of this city.

Brother McDonald says we have "meddled with his private business and made statements about his affairs that were untrue, thereby showing a total lack of those editorial courtesies that should characterize those who pretend to be CHRISTIAN gentlemen."

These assertions, as made by our contemporary, show a lack of good taste. The writer does not pretend to occupy the position he gives us credit for, that of being a Christian, a condition in life worthy for any man to occupy and good to aspire for. We have never meddled with his "private affairs."

We did speak about his erecting an addition to his office, but in speaking of the matter, used no language that denotes anything but the gentleman. Let us see what he took exception to:

"In the first place Mr. McDonald knew that according to the law of this city he was compelled to appear before the council and secure the permission to erect the structure. Mr. McDonald when called upon by the mayor and committee said he did not realize that he was violating the city ordinance. Such an assertion is unreasonable. A man who has occupied the position Editor McDonald has for so many years surely has a more comprehensive view of our ordinances. The truth of the matter is that he knew he was violating the ordinance to a large extent, and therefore ignored the council wholly, by not asking permission."

If anywhere in the above notice we attacked Mr. McDonald's private business, we would like to know in what respect. We accuse him of violating the fire ordinance of this city, which cannot be denied. In the first place he did not call upon the council for permission to build this addition, which any other citizen is compelled to do if they desire to construct a building of any description within the fire limits. Then again the structure that was erected is in direct violation of the city ordinance, and there is not one iota of evidence to prove that he was adopting a proper course in the constructing of this addition. This is a section of the ordinance.

"Be it Ordained, etc., That no person shall hereafter erect, build or place or cause to be erected built or placed on any lot or lots as herein described: Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 161, 162, 163, and the bank lot 44 and 45, all in the original plat of the town (now city) of Plymouth Ind; any building or buildings or addition to any building or buildings heretofore erected (privies and chicken houses excepted), unless the outer walls thereof be composed of brick or stone with mortar.*** Any buildings built contrary to this order shall be moved or demolished by the marshal."

When our friend McDonald intimates that THE INDEPENDENT censured him through envy, he knew he was uttering an untruth, for we do not envy him one solitary thing he possesses in this world, from the brainy matter beneath his hat to the political pull he persistently pulls at.

We consider the interest of the city paramount to any private individual and Mr. McDonald's residence of over forty years in Plymouth does not give him one solitary privilege more within the corporate limits, than the humblest tax payer who has resided here one year. These reiterated about his long residence in Plymouth are becoming quite a "chestnut," and should be relegated to the past.

Personally we like Mc, we believe him a jolly good fellow, but when he manages by putting up a good game of bluff to prevent the city officials from performing their duty, we propose to air the matter. So under the circumstances we reiterate McDonald violated the city ordinance when he put up that addition and some one of the officials of this city neglected to fulfill their duty.

Licensed to Wed.

Jerome H. Schrom and Minnie A. Fields. Vinton Squires and Lizzie Clayborn. Harvey Carrothers and Effie Vinnefog. Andrew J. Claxton and Elizabeth A. Wallace. Wm. A. Johnson and Bertha May Anders. John P. Hansen and Katie Theurer.

Excursion to Indianapolis.

On account of the meeting of the Grand Chapter of Independent Order of Eastern Star, at Indianapolis, the Vandalia line will sell tickets at one and one-third fare for round trip. Good going April 21st and 22nd, and returning up to and including April 24.

T. A. DOWNS, Agt.